

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01058 221051Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----221052 127974 /14

R 221019Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2820

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 1058

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, ET, US
SUBJ: GODLEY APPOINTMENT

REF: A. STATE 15236, B. ADDIS ABABA 476

1. I WAS FINALLY ABLE TO DISCUSS GODLEY APPOINTMENT WITH ACTING FONMIN GETACHEW KIBRET FEB 21, AFTER POINTING OUT THAT WHILE I HAD AGREED TO AWAIT FONMIN KIFLE'S RETURN TO DO SO, I HAD NONETHELESS A LONG OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTION FROM DEPT AND FELT THAT I SHOULDN'T WAIT MUCH LONGER. GETACHEW WAS MANIFESTLY UNFAMILIAR WITH SUBJECT BUT APPARENTLY AGREED DISCUSS MATTER FOLLOWING BRIEFING BY ACTING AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION DIRECTOR BERHANE DERESSA.

2. AFTER REVIEWING PREVIOUS HISTORY, I NOTED THAT IMMEDIATE ISSUE WAS OUR REQUEST FOR A FORMAL NOTE WITHDRAWING AGREEMENT. ESSENCE OF GETACHEW'S REPLY WAS THAT EPMG PREFERRED IN BEST INTERESTS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS NOT TO STRETCH OUT THIS MATTER ANY FURTHER, AND THAT EPMG THEREFORE HOPED THAT WE WOULD NOT INSIST UPON NOTE. GETACHEW OPENED BY WONDERING WHETHER NOTE WAS REALLY NECESSARY AND COMMENTED, AS HAD KIFLE AND MEKBIB, THAT EPMG FEARED GODLEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY HERE IN VIEW OF ADVERSE PUBLICITY IN U.S. BERHANE ADDED THAT IT WAS
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IMPORTANT FOR WASHINGTON NOT TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF MATTER SINCE THIS WOULD BE TO NO ONE'S ADVANTAGE.

3. GETACHEW ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT DEPT'S REACTION WOULD BE. I TOLD HIM I WAS UNABLE TO SAY; THAT EPMG WAS AWARE OF OUR POSITION AND THAT MY MAJOR FUNCTION AT MOMENT THEREFORE WAS TO INFORM DEPT OF EPMG'S CURRENT

THINKING ON MATTER.

4. COMMENT: LINE TAKEN BY GETACHEW WAS VERY PROBABLY
LINE KIFLE WOULD HAVE TAKEN AS INTERPRETED BY BERHANE
(WHO INCIDENTALLY TAKES HIS AMERICAN JOB SERIOUSLY AND
TRIES HARD TO MAINTAIN GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS AS HE
SEES THEM FROM ETHIOPIAN OPTIC).

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT, AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions:
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TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, ET, US, (GODLEY, G MCMURTRIE)
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